

# California High-Speed Rail SB and DVBE Policy

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The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) is planning and implementing a \$43 billion state-of-the-art high-speed rail system, which will promote a healthy, diverse economy that will create opportunities for businesses throughout the State. The CHSRA is committed to creating opportunities for Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) participation in the contracting and procurement of services needed to develop the HSR system.

## **CONTRACT GOALS**

It is the CHSRA's policy that Small Businesses (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBEs) will be given the maximum practicable opportunity to compete for contracts.

In an effort to promote this maximum practicable participation in the approved projects as a prime or a subcontractor, the CHSRA strives to meet State of California minimum contracting goals:

- Small Business: 25 percent
- Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises: 3 percent

## **SUBCONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES**

The CHSRA will encourage its prime contractors to meet SB and DVBE subcontract goals. Prime contractors are encouraged to post subcontracting opportunities on the <http://www.bidsync.com/DPXBisCASB> website and must agree to use their best efforts to include the participation of small businesses and disabled veteran-owned firms in all solicitations. SB and DVBE firms interested in subcontract opportunities are encouraged to contact existing CHSRA firms to introduce their firm's capabilities.

CHSRA will structure business outreach efforts to include strategies and tactics that produce a pool of potential bidders that is broad and diverse to ensure the CHSRA attracts the best, strongest bidders.

## **DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES**

The CHSRA aspires to create a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program that would encourage participation by small business concerns owned and controlled by socially and economically disadvantaged persons, including women and minorities. However, the CHSRA is evaluating whether it can legally implement such a policy as it may conflict with California ballot initiative, Proposition 209, as well as federal funding policies that guide the Federal Railroad Administration.

## **CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES**

The CHSRA engages in all procurement activities through the Department of General Services. For more information about California's SB and DVBE practices and to find out more about contract opportunities with the State of California, log on to the Department of General Services Office of Small Business & Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Services (OSDS) at <http://www.dgs.ca.gov/pd/Programs/OSDS.aspx>